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COMMITTEE ON THE ELIMINATION
OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION
Fifty-eighth session
Geneva 6-23 March 2001

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND ANNOTATIONS

Note by the Secretary-General

1. The fifty-eighth session of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination will be held at the United Nations Office in Geneva from 6 to 23 March 2001. The first meeting of the session will be convened at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, 6 March. The last meeting will be convened at 3 p.m. on Friday, 23 March.

2. This document contains the provisional agenda for the session, prepared by the Secretary-General in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee in accordance with rule 6 of the rules of procedure, together with annotations relating thereto.

3. The attention of States parties is drawn, in particular, to the tentative timetable for the consideration of reports and further information submitted by States parties and for the consideration of States parties whose reports are seriously overdue pursuant to the review procedure.

4. In accordance with rule 64 of the rules of procedure, the representatives of the States parties are invited to be present at the meetings of the Committee when their reports are examined.

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Approval by the Committee of the experts appointed by two States parties to fill the vacancies resulting from the resignation of two members of the Committee.

2. Adoption of the agenda.

3. Election of Rapporteur.

4. Organizational and other matters.

5. Prevention of racial discrimination, including early warning measures and urgent action procedures.

6. Consideration of reports, comments and information submitted by States parties under article 9 of the Convention.

7. Submission of reports by States parties under article 9, paragraph 1, of the Convention.

8. Action by the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session:

   (a) Annual report submitted by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination under article 9, paragraph 2, of the Convention;

   (b) Effective implementation of international instruments on human rights.

9. Consideration of communications under article 14 of the Convention.

10. Consideration of copies of petitions, copies of reports and other information relating to Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories and to all other territories in which General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) applies, in conformity with article 15 of the Convention.

11. Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination; Third World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance.

ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Approval by the Committee of the experts appointed by States parties to fill the two vacancies resulting from the resignation of two members of the Committee

In accordance with article 8, paragraph 5 (b) of the Convention and rule 13, paragraph 1 of the Committee's rules of procedure, the representative of the Secretary-General will submit to the Committee, for approval by secret ballot, the name of the experts appointed by China and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, respectively, to fill the vacancies resulting from the resignation of Ms. Deci Zou (China) and Mr. Michael Banton (United Kingdom) from the Committee.

Upon approval the new members will make the following solemn declaration:

> "I solemnly declare that I will perform my duties and exercise my powers as a member of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination honourably, faithfully, impartially and conscientiously."

2. Adoption of the agenda

Under rule 8 of the rules of procedure, the first item on the provisional agenda of any session shall be the adoption of the agenda. In accordance with rule 9, the Committee may revise the agenda during a session and may, as appropriate, add, defer or delete items.

3. Election of Rapporteur

In accordance with rule 20 of the rules of procedure, the Committee shall elect from among its members a rapporteur to replace Mr. Michael Banton for the remainder of his term, which would have expired on 19 January 2002.

Under rule 58 of the rules of procedure, elections shall be held by secret ballot, unless the Committee decides otherwise in the case of an election to fill a place for which there is only one candidate.

4. Organizational and other matters

Under this item, the Committee will consider its programme of work for the fifty-eighth session. It will also undertake a general debate on issues of interest to the Committee. The Secretariat will brief the Committee about the Plan of Action to strengthen the implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (2000-2004).

5. Prevention of racial discrimination, including early warning measures and urgent action procedures

The Committee decided at its forty-fifth session to establish this as one of its regular and principal agenda items. Within the framework of its efforts to prevent racial discrimination, the Committee may decide to take early warning measures aimed at preventing existing problems from escalating into conflicts; or it may decide to initiate urgent action procedures aimed at responding to problems requiring immediate attention to prevent or limit the scale or number of serious violations of the Convention. The Committee may also take action or further action regarding States parties already considered under this item.

The Committee may, at its discretion, schedule the consideration of the situation in some States parties at short notice.

6. Consideration of reports, comments and information submitted by States parties under article 9 of the Convention

At its fifty-eighth session, the Committee will consider periodic reports received from the following States parties: Algeria, Argentina, Bangladesh, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Japan, Portugal and the Sudan. It will also undertake a review of the implementation of the Convention in the following States parties from which periodic reports are seriously overdue: Côte d'Ivoire, Fiji, Gambia, Jamaica, Qatar, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo.

In pursuance of established practice and in conformity with rule 64 of the rules of procedure, the Secretary-General has informed the States parties concerned of the tentative dates on which their reports are scheduled for consideration by the Committee. The scheduling of the Committee's consideration of reports submitted and review of the implementation of the Convention in the States parties whose reports are excessively overdue is set forth in the timetable below.

7. Submission of reports by States parties under article 9, paragraph 1, of the Convention

At its fifty-eighth session, the Committee will have before it a note by the Secretary-General concerning the status of submission of reports by States parties in accordance with article 9 of the Convention (CERD/C/392). Part A of that document indicates reports received from States parties and pending consideration by the Committee. Part B of the document contains information relating to overdue reports.

8. Action by the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session

Following a request made by the Committee at its seventh session in 1973, this item is included yearly on the Committee's provisional agenda.

(a) Annual report submitted by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination under article 9, paragraph 2, of the Convention

Pursuant to article 9, paragraph 2, of the Convention, the annual report of the Committee, covering its activities during the fifty-sixth and fifty-seventh sessions, was submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session. The Committee will have before it the report and relevant summary records of the Third Committee, as well as relevant General Assembly resolutions.

(b) Effective implementation of international instruments on human rights

The Committee will have before it relevant General Assembly resolutions, as well as the report on the 12th meeting of the chairpersons of human rights treaty bodies.

9. Consideration of communications under article 14 of the Convention

In accordance with the provisions of chapter XVIII of its rules of procedure, the Committee will consider under this item communications which are or appear to be submitted to it under article 14 of the Convention.

In accordance with rule 88 of the rules of procedure, the meetings of the Committee during which communications under article 14 of the Convention are examined shall be closed.

10. Consideration of copies of petitions, copies of reports and other information relating to Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories and to all other territories in which General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) applies, in conformity with article 15 of the Convention

Under this item, the Committee will have before it a note by the Secretary-General (CERD/C/393) concerning article 15 of the Convention and listing, as appropriate, copies of petitions, reports and working papers relating to the Trusteeship Council and the Special Committee on the Situation with Regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

11. Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination; Third World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance

At its 695th meeting (thirtieth session) in August 1984, the Committee decided to keep this item on its agenda and requested the Secretary-General to keep it informed of the relevant activities which would be undertaken in accordance with the Programme of Action for the Second Decade and subsequently the Programme of Action for the Third Decade.

The Committee has been discussing matters concerning its contribution to the World Conference since its fifty-third session in August 1998. The discussion will continue at the fifty-eighth session.

Tentative timetable for consideration of reports, comments and further information submitted by States parties and for consideration of States parties whose reports are seriously overdue pursuant to the review procedure

The following timetable has been drawn up by the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Chairman, taking into account the relevant decisions taken by the Committee at its fifty-seventh session.

Tuesday, 6 March 2001 (1439th meeting)

p.m.	Argentina	Fifteenth periodic report, due in 1998 (CERD/C/338/Add.9)

Wednesday, 7 March 2001 (1440th and 1441st meetings)

a.m.	Argentina	(continued)
p.m.	Iceland	Fifteenth and sixteenth periodic reports, due in 1998 and 2000 (CERD/C/338/Add.10 and CERD/C/384/Add.1)

Thursday, 8 March 2001 (1442nd and 1443rd meetings)

a.m.	Iceland	(continued)
	Qatar[1]	
	Togo[1]	
p.m.	Japan	Initial and second periodic reports, due in 1997 and 1999, submitted in one document (CERD/C/350/Add.2)

Friday, 9 March 2001 (1444th and 1445th meetings)

a.m.	Japan	(continued)
p.m.	Algeria	Thirteenth and fourteenth periodic reports, due in 1997 and 1999, submitted in one document (CERD/C/362/Add.6)

Monday, 12 March 2001 (1446th and 1447th meetings)

a.m.	Algeria	(continued)
	Fiji[1]	
p.m.	Portugal	Ninth periodic report, due in 1999 (CERD/C/357/Add.1)

Tuesday, 13 March 2001 (1448th and 1449th meetings)

a.m.	Portugal	(continued)
	Jamaica[1]	
p.m.	Germany	Fifteenth periodic report, due in 1998 (CERD/C/338/Add.14)

Wednesday, 14 March 2001 (1450th and 1451st meetings)

a.m.	Germany	(continued)
p.m.	Sudan	Ninth, tenth and eleventh periodic reports, due in 1994, 1996 and 1998, submitted in one document (CERD/C/334/Add.2)

Thursday, 15 March 2001 (1452nd and 1453rd meetings)

a.m.	Sudan	(continued)
	Senegal[1]	
p.m.	Georgia	Initial report due in 2000 (CERD/C/369/Add.1)

Friday, 16 March 2001 (1454th and 1455th meetings)

a.m.	Georgia	(continued)
p.m.	Greece	Twelfth, thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth periodic reports, due in 1993, 1995, 1997 and 1999, submitted in one document (CERD/C/363/Add.4)

Monday, 19 March 2001 (1456th and 1457th meetings)

a.m.	Greece	(continued)
p.m.	Bangladesh	Seventh, eighth, ninth, tenth and eleventh periodic reports, due in 1992, 1994, 1996, 1998 and 2000, submitted in one document (CERD/C/379/Add.1)

Tuesday, 20 March 2001 (1458th and 1459th meetings)

a.m. Bangladesh (continued)

Côte d'Ivoire [1]

p.m. Gambia[1]

Sierra Leone[1]

Lao People's Democratic Republic[1]

Note

[1] Review procedure (for States parties whose reports are seriously overdue).